



REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1, 11, and 13 have been amended. The revisions to claims 1, 11, and 13 are supported, for example, at Figure 4 and at page 14, lines 24-27 in the specification. Claims 1-13 are pending, with claims 1, 11, and 13 being independent.

Initially, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the indication that the application contains allowable subject matter, and that claim 10 is allowable over the prior art of record.

Claim rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-9 and 11-13 stand rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,507,185 (Hennekes). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent claim 1 is directed to an automatic semiconductor device testing apparatus. The apparatus comprises a tray for holding a semiconductor device that has a cable. The cable is held in the tray. The present invention overcomes certain difficulties that are present when testing a semiconductor device that has a cable, such as the occurrence of deformation of the cable during transportation of the device body and cable during testing. *See, e.g.*, page 2, lines 16-21.

Hennekes does not teach or suggest the arrangement recited in claim 1. Hennekes is directed to testing electronic components. However, the electronic components described and shown in Hennekes do not have a cable that is connected to the device body. *See, e.g.*, Figure 1. Thus, the present invention is directed at solving a problem that is not present in the configuration of Hennekes. Because the components being tested in Hennekes do not have a cable attached to them, Hennekes cannot teach or suggest the features of the present invention.

Hennekes does not teach or disclose at least the above-described features. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is allowable over the cited reference.

Claims 2-9 depend from claim 1. Therefore, each of those claims is believed allowable for at least the reason that it is dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Independent claim 11 contains at least the same features described above with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, claim 11 is believed allowable for the same reasons provided above with respect to claim 1.

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Claim 12 depends from claim 11. Therefore, claim 12 is believed allowable for at least the reason that it is dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Independent claim 13 is directed to a method for automatically testing a semiconductor device. The method includes the step of holding the device and cable in a tray so that the connector can couple to a mating connector directly or indirectly.

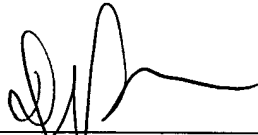
As noted above, Hennekes does not teach or suggest the feature of testing a semiconductor device with a cable. Therefore, Hennekes also does not teach or suggest at least the step of holding a device and a cable in a tray, as recited in claim 13.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 13 is allowable over the cited reference.

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 9, 2003

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